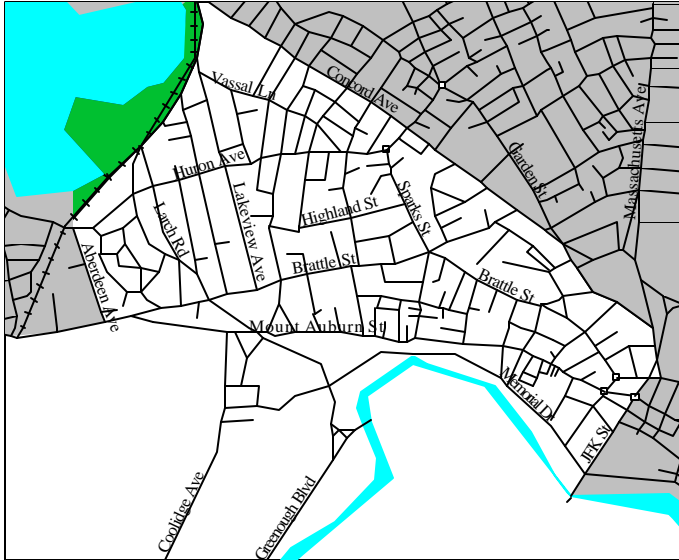
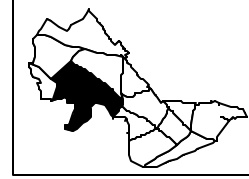


# NEIGHBORHOOD 10

## WEST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION:** 8,266 residents  
3,887 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$54,656

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1 officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and 16X.

### 2001 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW

From last year, West Cambridge has shown significant increases in housebreaks and auto thefts, offset by a decline in larcenies from motor vehicles. • Of the seven **street robberies** that took place this quarter, two resulted in arrests. One incident involved the unarmed robbery of a laptop computer, cell phone, and wallet from a man resting in the kiosk area of Harvard Square. Only one incident involved the use of threat via weapon (i.e. knife, handgun, etc.). • **Housebreaks**, which skyrocketed from fifteen to thirty-five incidents, mainly occurred late in the week at night while victims slept, or during the day while they were at work. The majority of breaks occurred in September, accounting for 37% of the incidents reported in the third quarter. Perpetrators mainly gained entry via the prying of windows or cutting of screens, targeting jewelry, wallets, and electronics such as laptops. • **Motor vehicle larcenies** experienced a drop from last year, with no new series occurring. July saw only one larceny when the culprit took \$7 in change from an unlocked motor vehicle. The majority of incidents took place in August and September, accounting for 26% of the total number of incidents. • Due to the recent surge of graffiti in Cambridge, this neighborhood has experienced a 37% increase of **malicious destruction**. Other means of destruction include damage to motor vehicles i.e. tire slashing and/or breaking windows, knocking over mailboxes, smashing residence windows, etc.

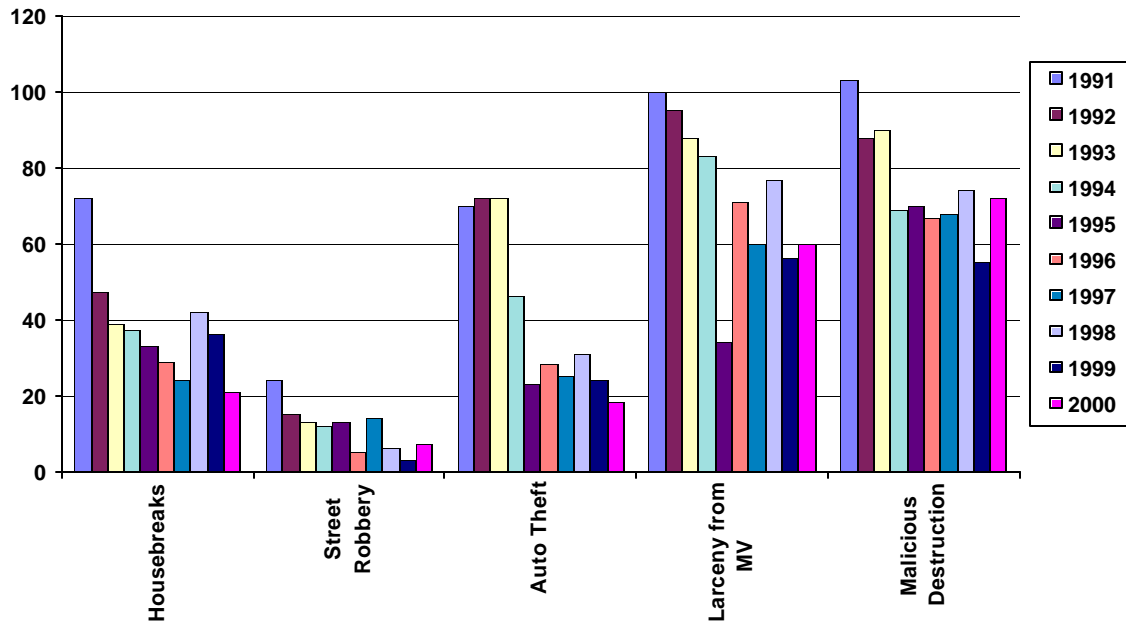
### Comparison of Target Crime Statistics 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2000 & 2001

CRIME	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2001	% CHANGE
Housebreaks	15	35	+ 133%
Street Robbery	6	7	+ 17%
Auto Theft	11	25	+ 127%
Larceny from MVs	41	31	- 24%
Malicious Destruction	57	78	+ 37%
Drug Arrests	7	7	N/A

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

West Cambridge is, geographically, the largest neighborhood in the city. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic; its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Almost all of West Cambridge's target crimes are lower than average, its population is slightly higher than average.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles**, is concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks, Brattle, and Mount Auburn Street. The incidents occur primarily on weekends, late at night. The related crime of **malicious destruction** registers at average levels.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been virtually eliminated. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, have not appeared for years. The 1997 total was the lowest in three decades.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from Persons** become a problem every spring and summer around the Square and in its many commercial establishments.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2000*
Housebreaks	105	4	38	8	9
Street Robbery	18	7	12	9	9
Auto Theft	105	6	42	8	10
Larceny from MVs	134	3	70	5	4
Malicious Destruction	92	8	75	7	7

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest